



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Tel: 301-504-0608

DIVISION OF  
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS  
FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 4/11/97 PAGES TRANSMITTED 1 + cover

TO: DONALD SCHUMACHER

TITLE:

OFFICE:

FAX #: (773) 973-0132

☐ Confirmation copy to follow by U.S. Mail

☒ Fax Transmission Only

FROM: Catherine A. Cumberland

REMARKS: Please let me know if the full report  
will be faxed/delivered by Monday the 14<sup>th</sup>  
Call me w/ comments on draft press release

\* SCARS  
HAS BEEN  
SENT A  
DRAFT  
TOO

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU

60



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Tel: 301-504-0608

DIVISION OF  
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS  
FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 4/10/97 PAGES TRANSMITTED 1 + cover

TO: *Peggy Parker*

TITLE:

OFFICE:

FAX #: *(847) 286-8351*

☐ Confirmation copy to follow by U.S. Mail

☒ Fax Transmission Only

*#3146*

FROM: *Catherine E. Cumberland*

REMARKS: *DRAFT OF Press Release, from the Public Affairs Office. Call me at (301) 504-0608 x1264 to discuss.*

*Schumacher  
has been  
sent a  
draft too*

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above.

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\*\*\* ACTIVITY REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	3146
CONNECTION TEL	918472868351
CONNECTION ID	
START TIME	04/11 13:04
USAGE TIME	01'09
PAGES	2
RESULT	OK

62

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\* ACTIVITY REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	3145
CONNECTION TEL	917739730132
CONNECTION ID	
START TIME	04/11 13:02
USAGE TIME	01'25
PAGES	1
RESULT	OK

63



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Tel: 301-504-0608

DIVISION OF  
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS  
FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 4/19/97 PAGES TRANSMITTED 8 + cover

TO: Donald Schumacher

TITLE:

OFFICE:

FAX #: (773) 973-0132

FROM: Catherine Cumberland

REMARKS: NO PD information

#3047

☐ Confirmation copy to follow by U.S. Mail

☒ Fax Transmission Only

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above.

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64

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\*\*\* ACTIVITY REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	3047
CONNECTION TEL	917739730132
CONNECTION ID	
START TIME	04/09 16:06
USAGE TIME	10'07
PAGES	9
RESULT	OK

65



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Tel: 301-504-0608

DIVISION OF  
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS  
FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 3/24/97 PAGES TRANSMITTED 2 + cover

TO: Donald Schumacher

TITLE:

OFFICE: Schumacher Electric Corp.

FAX #: 773-973-0132

- ☐ Confirmation copy to follow by U.S. Mail  
☐ Fax Transmission Only

FROM: Marc J. Schoem, Director - (301) 504-0608, ext. 1365

REMARKS: Information on NO-Preliminary  
Determination Program

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above. Or contact my secretary, Jackie Arrington on (301) 504-0608, ext. 1352.

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66\*

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\* ACTIVITY REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	2365
CONNECTION TEL	917739730132
CONNECTION ID	
START TIME	03/21 15:48
USAGE TIME	10'32
PAGES	9
RESULT	OK

67



**SEARS**

ty Palter  
ager - Editorial Services  
Communications and Public Relations

Sears, Roebuck and Co.  
BC-104B  
3333 Beverly Road  
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179  
708/286-8309  
708/286-8351 (fax)

**| F A X |**

To: Catherine Cumberland  
Date: April 17, 1997  
Subject: Schumacher Battery Charger Recall -- revised release attached  
Pages: 4 (including cover)

Attached, as promised, is the most recent version of the Schumacher Battery Charger press release. I believe all the information you were seeking is included (per the attached memo from George Zelazny). Please let me know if you need additional information or would like to talk to George or Don Schumacher personally.

Thank you for your assistance and your patience.

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# MEMO

To: J. Kamlowsky, W. Crafter, D/628  
From: G. Zelazny, D/817 *guz*  
Date: April 11, 1997  
Subject: CPSC comments re proposed Press Release and In Store Signs

Attached for your review are modified drafts of the documents shared with you on 4/9/97. The CPSC in Washington suggested changes more in the area of form than substance, and Schumacher has processed them accordingly.

The CPSC engineering staff of is currently reviewing the production modifications implemented by Schumacher and it is expected the Commission will report their findings sometime during the week of 4/14/97.

The Product Safety Office will place a hold on the authorization for sign production until CPSC gives its clearance and acceptance of the recall program to Schumacher.

If anyone has questions contact me at your convenience.

cc: Corporate Product Safety Committee

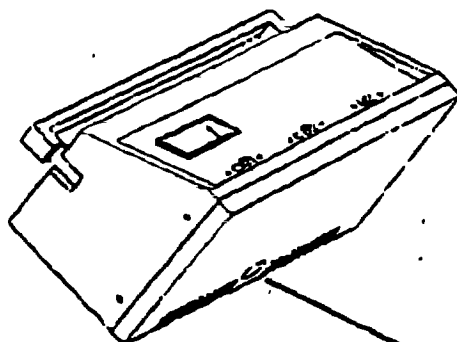
69

**Sign: To be posted in Sears store**

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

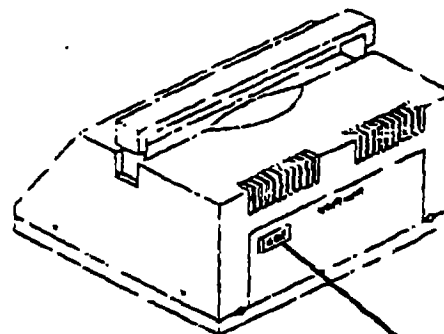
**RECALL OF DIEHARD AUTOMATIC 6/12 VOLT  
BATTERY CHARGER ENGINE STARTER 10/2/60 AMP  
SEARS MODEL 200.71310**

**FRONT**



**Date Code on bottom of charger**  
**ONLY those with the following codes are affected**  
**H961, H962, H963, H864, H965, H966, H967,**  
**H968, H969, H9610, H9611, H9612, H971, H972.**

**BACK**



**Label on back of charger**  
**If your charger has a white**  
**label showing # 1682, It has**  
**been modified and can be used**

### POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Under certain circumstances there is a potential overheating and possible smoke/fire hazard.**

### IDENTIFICATION

**The model number is located on the front of the charger. The production Date Code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only those chargers with date codes from January 1996 through February 1997 (H961...H972, as indicated above) are affected. If the charger is marked with a White label on the back of the charger with # 1682, the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned.**

### CORRECTIVE ACTION

**If you have one of these chargers ( without the white label and within the affected date code) , bring it to your nearest Sears Auto Center , Sears Hardware Store or Dealer Store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.**

**INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 64**

**Removal 60 days after posting.**

MSN97-006

70

**DRAFT #6s**  
**CPSC LETTERHEAD**

**CPSC CONTACT**

**SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CONTACT**  
**DON SCHUMACHER**  
**773 973 1600**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**APRIL XX 1997**

**CPSC AND SCHUMACHER ANNOUNCE RECALL OF SEARS BATTERY CHARGER**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Schumacher Electric Corp., Chicago, Illinois, is recalling approximately 100,000 Sears DieHard battery chargers.

The chargers are being voluntarily recalled due to a wiring connection that, while the unit is plugged into a live outlet, could result in a short in the transformer causing it to overheat, creating a possible smoke or fire hazard. Sears has removed all of the potentially defective units from its shelves, and Schumacher Electric has corrected the wiring in these chargers.

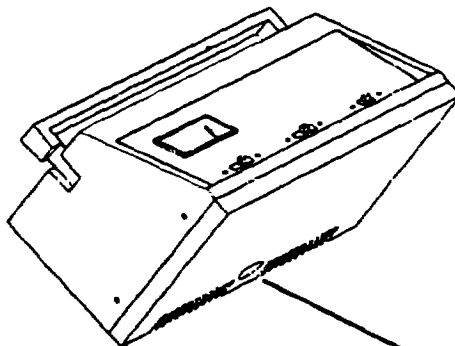
The chargers were sold in Sears Automotive Centers, Sears Hardware stores and Sears Dealer stores as Die Hard battery charger model 200.71310 at a price of \$64.99. The product date code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only chargers manufactured between January 1996 and February 1997 are affected by the recall. If the charger is marked with a white label sticker on the back of the charger with the #1682, this indicates that the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned. Consumers can check the date code on the base or bottom of their charger (see attached diagram) to determine if their charger is included in the recall.

Consumers are advised to immediately stop using the battery charger and return it to their nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware Store or Sears Dealer store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.

No other Sears battery chargers are involved in the recall.

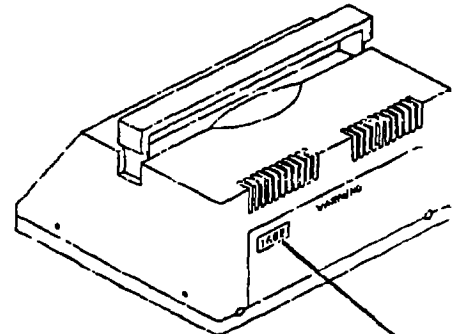
**SEARS MODEL 200.71310**

**FRONT**



**Date Code on bottom of charger**  
**ONLY those with the following codes are affected**  
**H961, H962, H963, H964, H965, H966, H967,**  
**H968, H969, H9610, H9611, H9612, H971, H972.**

**BACK**



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**If your charger has a white**  
**label showing # 1682, It has**  
**been modified and can be used**

**INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 64**

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under agency jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or product related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand services, call CPSC's hotline (800) 638 2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638 8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 604 0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain the release and recall information at CPSC's web site at [HTTP://www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or via internet gopher services at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Consumers can report products hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).

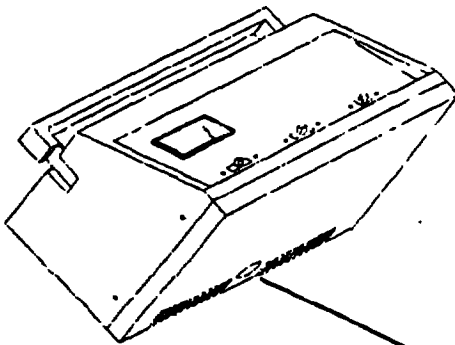
DRAFT

Sign: To be posted in Sears store

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

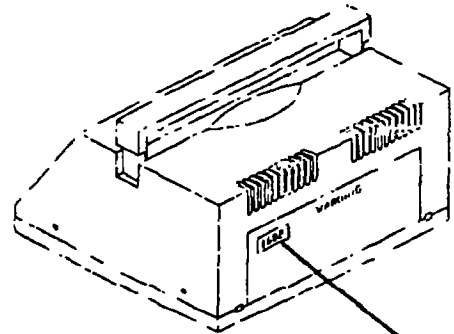
RECALL OF DIEHARD AUTOMATIC 6/12 VOLT  
BATTERY CHARGER ENGINE STARTER 10/2/60 AMP  
SEARS MODEL 200.71310

FRONT



Date Code on bottom of charger  
ONLY those with the following codes are affected  
H961, H962, H963, H964, H965, H966, H967,  
H968, H969, H9610, H9611, H9612, H971, H972.

BACK



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### POTENTIAL HAZARD

Under certain circumstances there is a potential overheating and possible smoke/fire hazard.

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### CORRECTIVE ACTION

If you have one of these chargers ( without the white label and within the affected date code), bring it to your nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware Store or Dealer Store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.

**INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 64**

Removal 60 days after posting.

MSN97-006

72

Carol

51

G69E0080

TC-20

AUG 15 1996

RR

SEP 17 1996

Northbrook

# Neighbor phones, screams, fire, and 2 escape unhurt

By DUV LEAVITT  
STAFF WRITER

"Get out of the house!"

That was the single sentence [redacted] screamed over the phone to her neighbor early Monday morning, and that, apparently, was enough.

[redacted] and her teenage son Chris made it out of their house alive, and not a moment too soon, according to Northbrook firefighters. Their attached garage was burning through the roof, with only inches of wall separating their bedrooms from the blaze. The entire house was thick with smoke when they awakened, but they escaped uninjured, according to Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Lewis.

The family dog, [redacted] who, according to Morrissey, always followed [redacted] didn't Monday when she ran to awaken her son. The animal was found later, dead of smoke inhalation, according to [redacted]. The family cat was given oxygen and survived, according to Morrissey.

Lewis said he was surprised to find the fire out when he arrived at 2:39, 18 minutes after Morrissey called 911, considering there's no readily-available water at the site, and the fire wasn't discovered until it had burst through the garage roof. The unincorporated section's water needs are handled by wells.

Five engines from Northbrook, Wheeling, and Glenview used their self-contained water

tanks, 500 to 1,000 gallons each, and sprayed the contents on the fire. Even before Lewis arrived, a shuttle of water from a hydrant 2,000 feet away on [redacted] Road had begun. In all, four trips of 500 gallons each were made.

"Had it been a prolonged fire, we would have taken the time to lay a long supply line, and requested a tanker from Prospect Heights" Rural Fire Protection District, said Lewis.

The fire was contained to the garage, but the home was heavily smoke-damaged, and the ceilings of the bedrooms were overhauled by firefighters looking for embers. Damage was estimated at \$100,000.

The fire apparently started in a battery charger in the garage, and spread on to stored material nearby, to two cars within, and then to the building, according to Lewis.

"It's amazing the color a car has when it's burning," said [redacted] husband. "It's an orangish-red flame that looks like nothing else I've ever seen."

"The stench in that house was unbelievable," said his wife sadly. "The bedroom was totally black. The insulation was all down, and sopping wet."

Lewis said the [redacted] were lucky the fire began when the air was still. "If it had been windy, the fire would have progressed right down the attic like a wind tunnel, and carried through the roof."

73

C44

## ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REQUEST FORM

Document Number G 969 0080

Date of Incident 8/12/96

Category I.D. # Sect RR

Follow-Up Requested

Hazard Analysis

Section 15

Type Follow-Up Requested

~~Off-Site~~

or

On-Site

Headquarters Contact R Rauchschwalbe

Assignment Message

Telephone call O.K. But try to obtain remains of battery charger (if still available). Also obtain fire dept report and product evaluation. If battery charger manufacturer (and model) can not be identified, abbreviate IDI.

Person(s) to Contact

Northbrook F.D.

Guideline

Requested By RR

Task Number

961003 CCC 7018

Assigned to

C.H.O.

Date

10/3/96

24

961003CCC7018

## U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

## AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF NAME

Thank you for assisting us in collecting information on a potential product safety problem. The Consumer Product Safety Commission depends on concerned people to share product safety information with us. We maintain a record of this information, and use it to assist us in identifying and resolving product safety problems.

We routinely forward this information to manufacturers and private labelers to inform them of the involvement of their product in an accident situation. We also give the information to others requesting information about specific products. Manufacturers need the individual's name so that they can obtain additional information on the product or accident situation.

Would you please indicate on the bottom of this page whether you will allow us to disclose your name. If you request that your name remain confidential, we will of course, honor that request. After you have indicated your preference, please sign your name and date the document on the lines provided.

☐

You are hereby authorized to disclose my name and address with the information collected on this case.

☒

My identity is to remain confidential. (by phone)

(Signature)

(Date)

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## U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

## NOTICE OF INSPECTION

## 1. DATE

10-03-97

## 3. FROM (Area Office and Address)

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
 230 S Dearborn St., Rm 2944  
 Chicago, IL 60604

## 2. TIME

A.M.

P.M.

312-353-8260

## A. NAME AND TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL

## B. FIRM NAME

SEARS ROEBUCK &amp; CO.

## C. TO

## C. NUMBER AND STREET ADDRESS

577 Waukegan Rd

## D. CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE

NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

847-272-8268

Notice of Inspection is hereby given pursuant to:

- Flammable Fabrics Act (15 U.S.C. 1191 et seq.);
- Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.);
- Sections 16, 19 and 27 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2065, 2068 and 2076)
- Section 704(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 374(a)) [Authority for in connection with the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970 (15 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.)], and/or
- Section 11(b) of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act as Amended (15 U.S.C. 1270(b)).

Refer to the back of this form for a discussion of inspectional authority and for pertinent statutory language.

## E. PURPOSES OF INSPECTION AND NATURE OF INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED AND/OR COPIED.

The purpose of this inspection is to obtain information: to review and obtain copies of items including but not limited to records, reports, books, documents, and labeling; and to obtain samples, in order to enforce or determine compliance with the Acts administered by the Consumer Product Safety Commission

TO LEARN ABOUT COMPLAINTS ON CAR BATTERYCHARGERS.

## F. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

Those from whom information is requested should state whether any of the information submitted is believed to contain or relate to a trade secret or other matter which should be considered by the Commission to be confidential and whether any of the information is believed to be entitled to exemption from disclosure by the Commission under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (15 U.S.C. 552). Any statement asserting this claim of confidentiality must be in writing, and any request for exemption of the information from dis-

APR-11-97 SAT 15:19

P.16

~~NEGATIVES~~

CASE NO.

961003CCC7018

NEGATIVES FOR 961003CCC7018.

961003 CCC7018  
NEGATIVES

17

**Schumacher** ELECTRIC CORP.

7474 N. Rogers Ave. • Chicago, IL 60626 • (312) 973-1500 • FAX 312-973-7781

April 10, 1997

Catherin Cumberland  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Ms. Cumberland:

In response to the full report required by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, I am submitting the following:

1. Donald A. Schumacher, President  
Schumacher Electric Corporation  
7474 N Rogers Ave  
Chicago, IL 60626
2. Schumacher Electric Corporation  
7474 N Rogers Ave  
Chicago, IL 60626

Plant of Manufacture  
Schumacher Electric Corporation  
1025 E. Thompson Ave  
Hoopeston, IL 60942

3. Sears Die Hard Automotive Battery Charger Model #71310, retail price of \$64.99, date codes of H961, H962, H963, H964, H965, H966, H967, H968, H969, H9610, H9611, H9612, H971, H972. If the product has a white sticker with 1682 on the back then the product has been modified and can be used.
4. Enclosed
5. Possible overheating, creating a smoke/fire hazard.
6. Copy of claim enclosed.
7. Approximately 100,000 pieces.

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8. Manufactured and sold from January 1996 to February 1997.
9. 68,000 units in consumer hands, 2200 units at Sears stores and warehouses that have been recalled, 10,700 units have been reworked that were in my stockroom and the 22,000 units being returned from Sears that are new will be reworked.
10. Enclosed
11. Enclosed
12. All unsold product has been returned and will be reworked and reshipped to Sears. All sold product will be replaced with a new unit at no charge. Returned to Schumacher Electric to be disassembled for salvage.
13. The product is manufactured by Schumacher Electric exclusively for Sears under the Die Hard name. It is sold at Sears Auto Centers, Sears Paint and Hardware Stores, Sears Dealer Stores.
14. N/A
15. N/A

Don Schumacher

Rework Procedure # 1682 for 71312 - 94191008 93026431 rev 3-20-97

.....THIS REWORK IS NOT THE SAME AS THE 71310.....

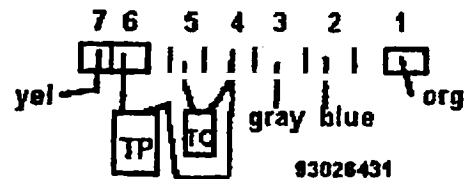
Object is to rework all stock and in process chargers , all distribution returns and 431 transformers

The transformer 93026431 is to result in a transformer with:

1. Thermal Switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of coil, narrow side down, in positions 4 & 6. You will have to remove THE Brown jumper from the transformer before the TP and the TCO can be reinstalled. Remove M/M terms from positions 5 & 6, then open tape wrap carefully as you will reuse. First place the 3900000099 TCO in pos 4 & 5 on top of the layer of tape already in place , then place the TP in positions 4 & 6.

The thermal switch is relocated in positions 4 and 6 after the tco is located in positions 4 & 5. Make sure both TP and TC leadwires are completely separated from each other and the body of the TP.

3. Reconnect the Bm lead.



The Charger is to result in a charger with:

1. Thermal Switch on the outside of coil
2. Thermal Cutoff 3900000099 added to the transformer
3. Sleeving on the leads designated see Marked up prints-
4. Green label on the individual and master cartons

Charger rework Obtain the charger from stock and rework by:

1. Carefully remove the individual cartons from the master carton. Save Master Carton
2. Carefully remove the charger from the individual carton. Save Carton and Manual
3. Remove the six screws securing the cover to the case. Remove Cover. Save all hardware
4. Observe the transformer:

The Thermal switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of the coil with a thermal cutout 3900000099 also added to the transformer (See proper hookup view ).

5. Sleeving 0399000021 is to be added to the charger linecord connections. If the charger has the dual wire( jumper) the sleeving should be put on the terminals next to the linecord connection and on the single end terminal of the jumper. OR 5A

5A. Dual lead linecord put 0399000022 on the dual connection and 0399000021 on the single end.

6. Replace the cover and secure with the six saved screws.

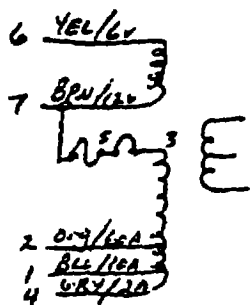
7. Test the charger per standard test specification

8. If charger tests OK , repack with manual in the saved individual carton. Label the carton with green label. Repack four reworked chargers into the saved master pack. Label the master carton with one of the green labels.

9. Restock

80

3-17-97



#4

TESTS CONDUCTED @ H.

ON Sears 71310 / with 428-12 transf.  
with TCO in Pocket

& TP ON TOP OF COIL.

Sham G.  
Randy L.  
Scott L.  
John L. (Portly)

1. New Charger: 12v/10A/man. mode - Shorted 1 divide

TCO opened up in 1--

INSTALLED 2nd + 3rd TCO - Same results -

2. New Charger: 12v/10A/man. mode - Shorted Org & Blk at Switch  
(Boost) (Line)

- TCO opened up in  
25 Secs

3. New Charger: 12v/10A/man. mode - Shorted 6V extension (Yel + Brn) at trans.

- TP opened in 15 sec
- Some Smoke + Small
- TP Continued to Cycle for 6 hrs until we shut

4. New Charger: 12v/10A/man. mode - Load @ 16-17 amps  
& Cycled Line ON/OFF - 100 times - No failure

5. above Charger in #4: with No Load on ~~Sec~~ Charger  
50 Cycles - line ON/OFF (in 12v/10A/man mode)  
50 Cycles - 6/12V Switch back & forth  
50 Cycles - 2/10/Boost Switch back & forth.  
50 Cycles - man/Reg/MF Batt Switch

- No failure

6. New charger: Repeated all 4x 50 cycles above.  
then Shorted grey + Blue at trans (4+1) } - TCO opened up in 40-  
then TP opened up also

7. New charger: Repeated all 4x 50 cycles above  
then Shorted blu + org (1 + 2) } - TCO opened up 20 Secs -

8

Page 2

8. New Charges: 12v/10A/man mode:

Shorted Output Clips : CB cycled for 6 hrs until shut a  
- no failure

9. New Charges: 12v/10A/man mode:

Reversed Polarity on battery : CB cycled  
TCO opened up in 3 hrs.

10. New Charges: 12v/60A/man mode:

Loaded it to 60A load . CB cycled for a while  
until TP started to cycle  
watched it run for 2 hrs  
until shut down - no fail

S2



③ *Standard* **ELECTRIC CORP.**  
 7474 ROGERS AVE. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60626  
 SEARS 71310 wiring diagram  
 ALL DIMENSIONS IN INCHES  
 TOLERANCES  
 UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED  
 FRACTIONAL .51/64  
 DECIMAL .0003  
 ANGULAR .0300



[illegible]

REWORK TO #1682 SCHEMATIC.  
3/4/97

ACCORD

③ *Continental* ELECTRIC CO. CO.

7474 ROGERS AVE. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60626

# Sears 71310 wiring diagram

**ALL DIMENSIONS IN INCHES**

## TOLERANCES

# UNITS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

**WELLS**  
**15001**

**PART NO.**

94-191-007-04

**SEARS**

George F. Zelazny  
Product Safety Analysis Office  
Product Quality Assurance  
Department 817.

Home Office  
3333 Beverly Road  
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179

January 21, 1997

Mr. Wayne Luczak  
SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CO.  
7474 N. Rogers Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60626

Dear Wayne:

In keeping with our established practice, we are enclosing a copy of information which was directed to us from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, regarding a product manufactured by your firm for Sears. Because of the alleged circumstances we have entered this issue into our M-55 product safety investigative procedures.

Your company may already be aware of this matter or similar situations through other sources of information.

As you are aware, if your evaluation reasonably supports the conclusion that this product contains a defect which could create a substantial product hazard, or fails to comply with an applicable consumer product safety rule, you are required to notify the CPSC.

After your office has had an opportunity to review this material, please inform me of your final disposition.

Sincerely,

  
G. F. Zelazny

GFZ:ccr

Enc.

cc: J. Kamlowsky, D/628  
D. A. Macarus, D/817

97 M55 HL 34 628.00-5, 7

G/I





IDI 961003CCC7018

18 NOV 1996

**PRE-ACCIDENT:**

An automobile has a system that lights up the cigarette lighter receptacle to allow users to know where to put the lighter back after use when it is dark. The owners did not realize that the light stays on if the lighter or a car phone or other unit is not plugged into the empty receptacle. The owner took out the car phone jack, and did not put the cigarette lighter back in. She then went on vacation for 10 days, leaving the car in her garage. When she returned, the car would not start because the battery charge had been drained too low.

Earlier this year, in June 1996, the woman bought a new car battery charger for \$69.00. She and her 12 year old son attached the new battery charger directly to the car battery, and plugged the two prong cord into a three prong, grounded, electrical wall outlet on the back wall of the garage. The charger was placed on a steel shelf on the wall. This was the first time it was used. This was done on Sunday, 8-11-96, at 8:30 P.M.

The house and two car garage are made of brick. The house is a one story ranch type. The back wall of the garage is common to the front of the house. There are no doors or windows in this wall. A part of the roof of the house overhangs this wall. The garage has two entry doors, one in each of the side walls, and an overhead garage door.

The Owner checked on the battery charger about 10:30 that evening. It was still charging the battery. It should shut down automatically after the battery is fully charged. The unit was left as is, and the owner went to bed.

**ACCIDENT:**

Monday morning, at about 2:30 A.M. the owner received a phone call from her neighbor, telling her to get out of their house, because it was on fire. The owner and her son got out without injuries. The house was full of thick smoke. They could see that the garage was totally in flames.

**POST-ACCIDENT:**

The firemen came and put out the fire. They traced the fire to the battery charger. They could see that the steel shelving was discolored on its underside, and that the burn patterns led away from this area. The garage, the two cars, and the battery charger were completely destroyed. The house suffered heavy fire damage to the roof, and smoke and water damage to the contents and to the rest of the house. It is not habitable.

6

**IDI 961003CCC7018**

I visited the store where the battery charger was purchased to get a description of the product. The store employees were not aware of any complaints about this product.

**PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:**

The product involved is a Sears Diehard battery charger. I copied the data from the outer box and a new unit itself at the retail store.

The outer box for this battery charger had the catalog number of 28-71310. It was called the "Sears Diehard 10/2/60 fully automatic battery charger and engine starter". The UPC label had the designation "D28-M71310". The box label also stated: "For 6 and 12 volt batteries. 10 amp charge. 2 amp trickle charge. Color coded impact resistant meter. Trickle charge LED indicator. Spark proof protection. Reverse hook up protection. Two modes, manual and fully automatic." The unit has a three year warranty. It has the Sears Roebuck and Co. name, and address of dept 817WA, Hoffman Estates, IL 60179.

The unit itself has a rigid, dark gray colored plastic shell. The two prong electrical cord is four feet long. The battery cables are six feet long with brass pincers that have a 75 Amp capacity. The unit has a UL listing of 815G E32074 on the front. The back identification label states that this is model 200.71310., with an input of 120V AC, 6.4c 1.9/6/Aac; an output of 12/6 V Dc, 10/2/A DC. It has a 12 V DC/6 V DC engine start of 5 second Max on and 240 second Min off. 200.71310 (★)

**STANDARDS:**

This product's label states it as having the UL listed tag and number on it.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

There is a fire report record, and five photographs of the garage.

Photo 1 shows the right garage wall and the front door of the house.

Photo 2 shows the right doorway to the garage and the burnt roof overhang on the house.

Photo 3 is the inside left wall and back wall of the garage.

Photo 4 shows the inside right wall and the back wall and exit door of the garage.

Photo 5 is through the left exit door of the garage. This shows the burnt overhang of the house roof.

66



**NORTHBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**740 DUNDEE ROAD**  
**NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS 60062**

**INCIDENT REPORT**  
**961003CCC7018**

A CN 362		INCIDENT NO. 961282		MAP NO. 00	MO. 08	DAY 12	YEAR 96	DAY OF WEEK MONDAY	1. <input type="checkbox"/> Delay 2. <input type="checkbox"/> C		ALARM TIME 0221	ARRIVAL TIME 0227	IN SERV. 072
B TYPE OF SITUATION FOUND STRUCTURE FIRE				TYPE OF ACTION TAKEN 11 EXTINGUISHED				MUTUAL AID 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REC'D 2. <input type="checkbox"/> GR					
C FIXED PROPERTY USE RESIDENCE				IGNITION FACTOR 411 FAULTY ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE									
D [REDACTED]				ZIP CODE 60062				CENSUS TRACT 8016.00					
E OCCUPANT NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI) [REDACTED]				TELEPHONE [REDACTED]				ROOM OR APARTMENT [REDACTED]					
F OWNER NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI) [REDACTED]				ADDRESS [REDACTED]				CITY, STATE, ZIP [REDACTED]					
G METHOD OF ALARM FROM PUBLIC FEMALE				GRID NUMBER 1 059				CO. NUMBER 8				NO. ALARMS 1	
H NO. FIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL RESP. 019				NO. ENGINES RESPONDED 003				NO. AERIAL APPARATUS RESPONDED 001				NO. OTHER VEHICLES RESPONDED 1	
I NUMBER OF INJURIES FIRE SERVICE 000				OTHER 000				NUMBER OF FATALITIES FIRE SERVICE 000				OTHER 1	
J COMPLEX RESIDENCE				MOBILE PROPERTY TYPE 41 N/A									
K AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN GARAGE				EQUIPMENT INVOLVED IN IGNITION 47 ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE									
L FORM OF HEAT OF IGNITION SHORT CIRCUIT				TYPE OF MATERIAL IGNITED 24 PLASTIC				FORM OF MATERIAL IGNITED 40 INSULATION					
M METHOD OF EXTINGUISHMENT WATER FROM ENGINES				LEVEL OF FIRE ORIGIN 5 3' ABOVE GRADE				ESTIMATED LOSS (DOLLARS ONLY) 1 \$100,000					
N NUMBER OF STORIES ONE WITH BASEMENT				CONSTRUCTION TYPE 2 PROTECTED WOOD FRAME									
O EXTENT OF FLAME DAMAGE CONFINED TO STRUCTURE				EXTENT OF SMOKE DAMAGE 6 CONFINED TO STRUCTURE									
P DETECTOR PERFORMANCE SMOKE DETECTOR IN HOUSE DIDN'T OPER.				SPRINKLER PERFORMANCE 3 NONE PRESENT									
Q TYPE OF MATERIAL GENERATING MOST SMOKE RUBBER AND ASPHALT SHINGLES				AVERAGE OF SMOKE TRAVEL 51 COORIDORS									
R FORM OF MATERIAL GENERATING MOST SMOKE TIRES AND ROOFING MATERIAL													

S	IF MOBILE PROPERTY N/A	YEAR N/A	MAKE N/A	MODEL N/A	SERIAL NO. N/A	LICENSE NO. N/A
T	IF EQUIPMENT INVOLVED APPLIANCE	YEAR UNK	MAKE UNKNOWN	MODEL UNKNOWN	SERIAL NO. UNKNOWN	

ESTIMATIONS AND EVALUATIONS MADE HEREIN REPRESENT "MOST LIKELY" AND "MOST PROBABLE" CAUSE AND EFFECT.

R.E.D. #: 9613448

OFFICER IN CHARGE (NAME, POSITION, ASSIGNMENT)  
 JOHNSON, J.

MEMBER MAKING REPORT (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

DATE  
 4/11/97

961003CCC7018

RED #      ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

9613448      FIRST ARRIVING DISCOVERED A HOME WITH THE GARAGE  
HEAVILY INVOLVED IN FIRE. IT TOOK APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES TO  
EXTINGUISH THE FIRE. THE CAUSE OF THE FIRE IS UNDER INVESTIGATION BY  
THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU.

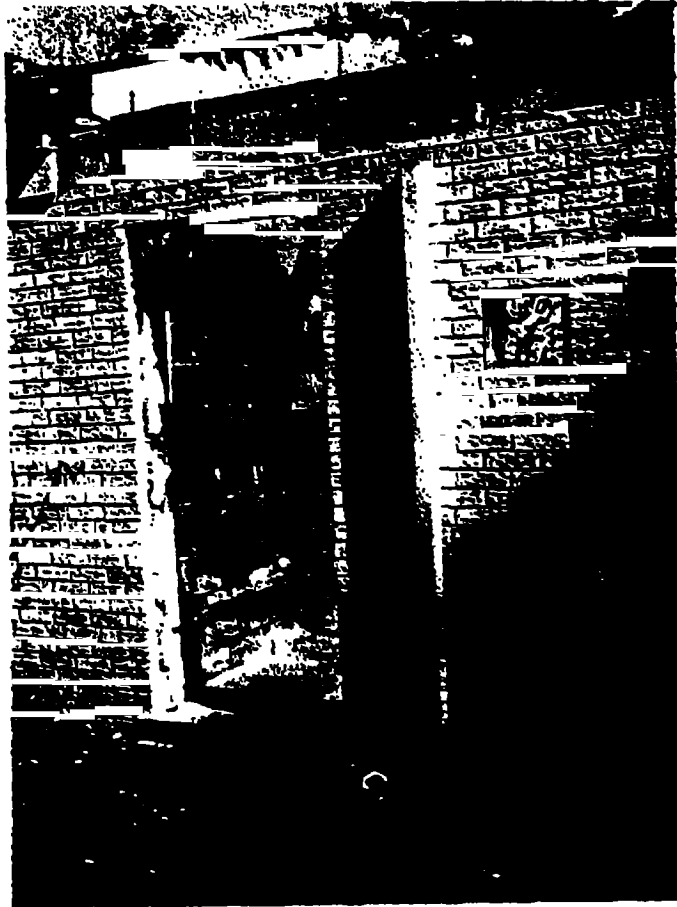
90

EXHIBITS

CASE NO.

9610030007018

Photo 5. The outside of the left garage exit door and the burnt roof overhang.



92✓



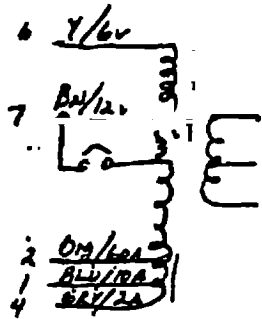
5-13-97

JH

Tests Conducted in the Lab.

on Sears 71310 / with 428-1 transy.

'TP' on top of Coil.



Don L.  
Steve W.  
Sham G.

1. Short Ckt. test: 12v/10A/man. mode : 5-7 sec first cycle - CB open  
 (15W/1150W)  
 { 6/12 switch - 'CW'  
 others - 'Defond'  
 4 x 50A diodes  
 USD - CB  
 ON - 2 sec  
 Off - 12 sec }  $(10^{32} - 3^{15})$   
 Run for 5 hrs  
 - No failure
2. Rev. Polarity test: 12v/10A/man. mode : CB opened up in 2 sec.  
 (57W/1750W) 582W/1530W.  $(10^{45} - 3^{15})$   
 { 6/12 switch - 'CW'  
 others - 'Defond'  
 4 x 50A - diodes  
 USD - CB  
 CB cycled for 4 1/2 hrs - no failure
3. Transy Burnt out test: - 3 "Ip" test: on the transformer  
 (6Amps)  
 - TP Cycled in 9 mts -  
 - 1250V hpfot OK.
4. Another transy burnt out test: - TP cycled in 7 mts - 1250V hpfot OK.  
 - Coil Temp = 120°C on pin
5. Complete Charger: Shorted diode: - TP Cycled in 61 sec.  
 (1500W)  
 Heavy Smoke  
 200°C on pin

3

Process

was

extended work -

[UL listed product -  
engineer]

output  
Chicago -

was already merged

mtg  
Hospitals →

8 pge

patly charged -  
35 years -

For X:

Manner - in this unit  
is different - 1939

other incidents - of Diode family  
fears -

800#  
Presenter -  
Daintopple

Splice mint  
jo

stiff

at

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

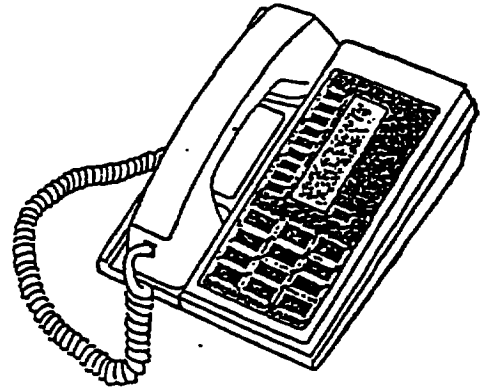
Date: 4/22/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call:

My 2nd Call:



Name: Donald Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (773) 973-1600 x203

Case/Subject: Scar's DeHND Bidding Charge

- Asked @ the H on the date code. He said it designated the plant that it was manufactured in (per UL requirement...)
- Early 96 have the H; late 96 & early 97 have no H.

A press release will be issued today.

as

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

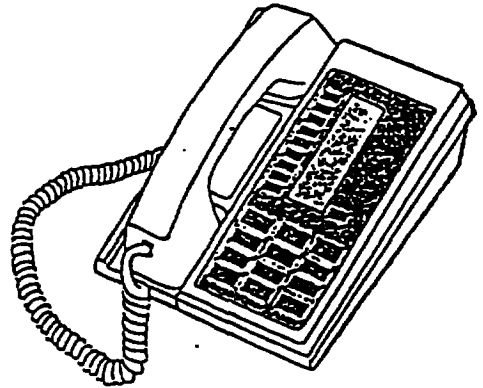
Date: 4/18/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: 10<sup>ish</sup>

My 2nd Call:



Name: Donald Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (773) 973-1600 x 203

Case/Subject: The Hand Battery Charger

- After talking w/ Sears, want to add his extension to the press release
- Neither he nor Sears want the sentence of "CPSC is aware of one alleged incident..."
- I told him it's in our data base. We did an IDI. It's a matter of record.
- He said he would discuss it w/ Sears.

94

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

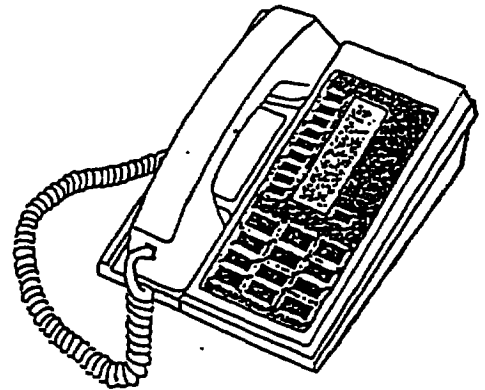
Date: 4/17/97.

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: 1050

My 2nd Call: 312



Name: Don Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (773) 973-1600 x203

Case/Subject: BATTERY CHARGE

- 1<sup>ST</sup> left message. Deadline for PR is 4/20/97 for participation in NO PO program. Please call me back.
- 2<sup>ND</sup> please call to discuss press release. Hopefully, we can finalize it tomorrow.

2 messages about OIRA rationale for placement of info in certain paragraphs.

an

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

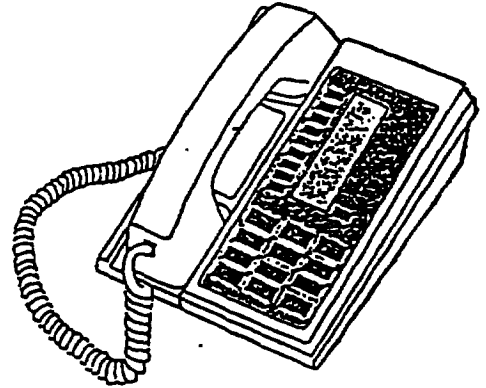
Date: 4/17/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: 10:55

My 2nd Call: 3:10 ; 5:15



Name: Peggy Parker

Firm: Semis

Telephone Number: (847) 286-8309.

Case/Subject: Schumacher holding charges

1<sup>st</sup> left message: 4/22 is deadline

2<sup>nd</sup> time is running out. Please give me a call to discuss press release

3<sup>rd</sup> OIPA is reviewing the press release now and I'll be fixing a copy tonight. We need to add a line @ CPSC allegedly knowing of one incident. Please call me to discuss

af

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

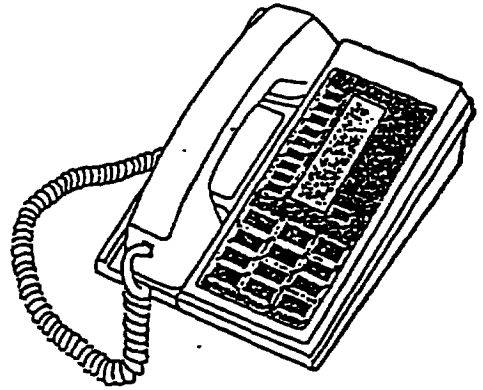
Date: 4/14/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: 11<sup>25</sup>

My 2nd Call:



Name: Steve Whalen

Firm: Schumacher.

Telephone Number:

Case/Subject: Battery Charger

Andrew Trotta had some follow-up questions

- diode replacement NOT part of rework

- 25 amp rating is sufficient

- They had no prob w/ model # 71312 but its same "config" & will ~~be~~ have a cap too.

99

4/10/97

Call w/ CAC & Don Schumacher

### Press Release 8

- ✓ Number of incidents: 1? - NO UNIT - INSURANCE COMPANY HAS IT
- ✓ Any injuries? NO
- ✓ NO 800 number in release → what @ putting the toll-free number from the poster
- ✓ NO INFO ON price → it was \$59.00
- ✓ NO date code INFO AS ON poster

### Poster

- Important Safety Notice needs to be much bigger
- 800# needs to be bigger
- only 30 days for posting, we would like to see 120 days
- Where is it going to be posted - by the producer & customer
- NO "Recall"

### Full Report still need it

Need to know how it failed  
old & new schematics

100



# Memorandum of Telephone Call

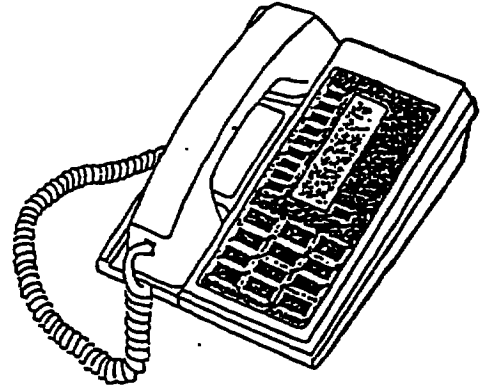
Date: 4/9/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: pm

My 2nd Call:



Name: DONALD Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (773) 973-1100 x203

Case/Subject: Battery charger.

- Yes we finally have the samples you sent but still don't have the full report info or corrective action info
- He said he will be sending us the draft press release & draft poster for our review
- He said he couldn't find the 9 page fax Marc sent, so I said I would re fax the info so he can get to the full report info.

101

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

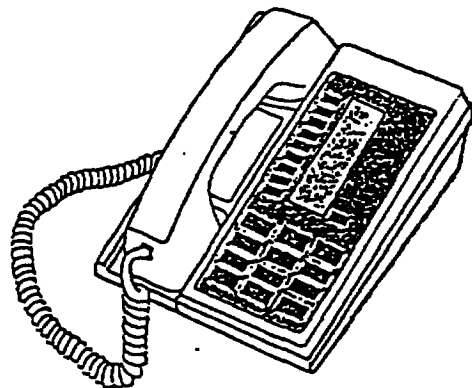
Date: 4/2/97 : 4/3

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: noon

My 2nd Call: 450



Name: Donald Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (773) 973-1600 x203

Case/Subject: Rechargeable battery

1st left message

102

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

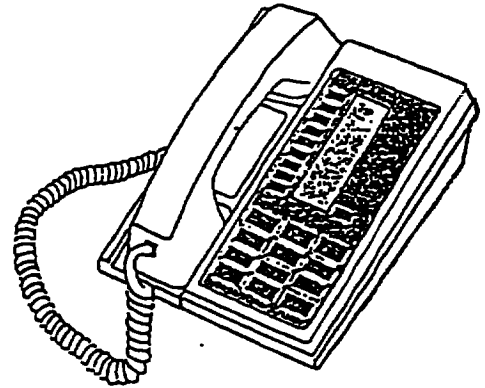
Date: 4/3/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call:

My 2nd Call:



Name: Peggy Patter

Firm: SEARS.

Telephone Number:

Case/Subject: Schumacher Electric.

Recalled from SEARS  
in his warehouse.

Will recall a larger date code 80,000-100,000.  
22 in SEARS  
12 back from turn

11,000 Reworked

Refund or XA  
800#

103

# Memorandum of Telephone Call

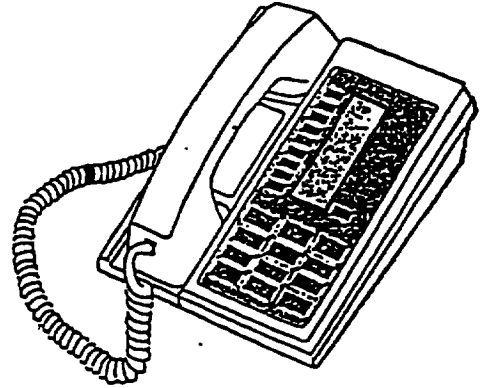
Date: 3/26/97. 3/31/97

Their 1st Call:

Their 2nd Call:

My 1st Call: 3<sup>1st</sup>

My 2nd Call: 4<sup>20</sup>



Name: Donald Schumacher

Firm: Schumacher Electric

Telephone Number: (713) 973-1600 x 203

Case/Subject:

1st

I left a message for him to call me

2nd

"

"

104

APR- 9-97 THU 14:52

P. 01



**Schumacher**

**ELECTRIC CORP.**

7474 N. Rogers Ave. • Chicago, IL 60626 • (312) 973-1600 • FAX (312) 973-7778

April 9, 1997

Katherin Cumberland  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Reference: Draft of letter for news release and signage.  
Corrective action taken on inventory in Sears  
warehouse, Sears stores and our warehouse.

Dear Katherin:

Enclosed is a draft of a news release Sears and Schumacher Electric has put together along with a sign that will be posted in the Sears stores. Please review these and advise me of your thoughts.

The corrective action we have taken is documented in the rework procedure #1682. This work has been completed on all of our warehouse inventory and all Sears stores and warehouse inventory.

Sincerely  
SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Donald A. Schumacher  
President

105

**DRAFT #4s  
CPSC LETTERHEAD**

**CPSC CONTACT**

**SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CONTACT  
DON SCHUMACHER  
773 973 1600**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL XX 1997**

**CPSC AND SCHUMACHER ANNOUNCE RECALL OF SEARS BATTERY CHARGER**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Schumacher Electric Corp., Chicago, Illinois, is recalling approximately 100,000 Sears DieHard battery chargers.**

**The chargers are being voluntarily recalled due to a wiring connection that, while the unit is plugged into a live outlet, could result in a short in the transformer causing it to overheat, creating a possible smoke or fire hazard. Sears has removed all of the potentially defective units from its shelves, and Schumacher Electric has corrected the wiring in these chargers.**

**The chargers were sold in Sears Automotive Centers, Sears Hardware stores and Sears Dealer stores as Die Hard battery charger model 200.71310. The product date code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only chargers manufactured between January 1996 and February 1997 are affected by the recall. If the charger is marked with a white label sticker on the back of the charger with the #1682, this indicates that the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned. Consumers can check the date code on the base or bottom of their charger (see attached diagram) to determine if their charger is included in the recall.**

**Consumers are advised to immediately stop using the battery charger and return it to their nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware Store or Sears Dealer store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.**

**No other Sears battery chargers are involved in the recall.**

**The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under agency jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or product related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand services, call CPSC's hotline (800) 638 2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638 8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504 0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain the release and recall information at CPSC's web site at [HTTP://www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or via Internet gopher services at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Consumers can report products hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).**

104

Rework Procedure # 1682 for 71310 - 94191007 93026428 3-17-97 rev 3-20-97

Object is to rework all stock and in process chargers , all distribution returns and 428 transformers

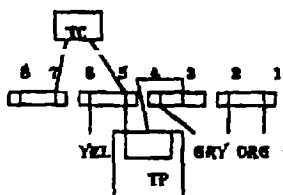
The transformer is to result in a transformer with:

1. Thermal Switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of coil, narrow side down, Use a layer of glass cloth tape under and over the thermal switch. You will have to remove jumpers Brown , Yellow and Gray from the transformer before TP can be reinstalled. The thermal switch is located in positions 5 and 3.

2. A Thermal Cutoff 3900000083 is added to the transformer. Place in bobbin hole and wire to position 7 and 5.

Make sure both TP and TC leadwires are completely separated from each other and the body of the TP.

3. Reconnect the Brn, Yel and Gry leads.



The Charger is to result in a charger with:

1. Thermal Switch on the outside of coil
2. Thermal Cutoff added to the transformer
3. Sleeving on the leads designated see 94191007-08
4. Green label on the individual and master cartons

Charger rework Obtain the charger from stock and rework by:

1. Carefully remove the individual cartons from the master carton. Save Master Carton
2. Carefully remove the charger from the Individual carton. Save Carton and Manual
3. Remove the six screws securing the cover to the case. Remove Cover. Save all hardware
4. Observe the transformer:

The Thermal switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of the coil.

A thermal cutout 3900000083 must be added to the transformer (See proper hookup view ).

5. Sleeving 0399000021 is to be added to the charger linecord connections. If the charger has the dual wire( jumper) the sleeving should be put on the terminals next to the linecord connection and on the single end terminal of the jumper.

5A. Dual lead linecord put 0399000022 on the dual connection and 0399000021 on the single end.

6. Replace the cover and secure with the six saved screws. Place label 1682 on back of charger above and next to the warning words.

7. Test the charger per standard test specification

8. If charger tests OK , repack with manual in the saved Individual carton. Label the carton with green label. Repack four reworked chargers into the saved master pack. Label the master carton with one of the green labels.

9. Restock

107



**Schumacher** ELECTRIC CORP.

7474 N. Rogers Ave. • Chicago, IL 60626 • 312/397-851600 • FAX 312/397-857785

3/21/97

Schumacher Electric Corporation  
7474 North Rogers Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Mr. Marc Schoem, Director  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Reference: Notification of product hazard

Mr. Schoem;

Mr. Don Schumacher has requested that I send to you:

- (2) model 71310 battery chargers with SY diodes and
- (1) model 71310 charger with the Motorola diodes and one shot thermal cutout..

The battery charger model 71310 is manufactured by Schumacher Electric Corporation and distributed by Sears Roebuck & Company..

The Company has received notification of a house fire believed to have been caused by the model 71310 battery charger. We have not seen the charger that was involved in this incident.

Upon investigation, at Schumacher Electric, of the 71310 charger, we have discovered a failure of some of the 25 amp button diodes, located inside the charger, which were supplied by one of our vendors. Since then, we have changed vendors and to a larger and higher rated diode for this application and will use Motorola diodes only. We have also added a thermal cutoff (one shot) into the transformer in addition to the already existing thermal switch.

Please feel free to call either myself or Mr. Schumacher concerning this matter.

Sincerely;

Steve Whalen ext 246  
Project Engineer  
Schumacher Electric Corporation

cc Don Schumacher

106

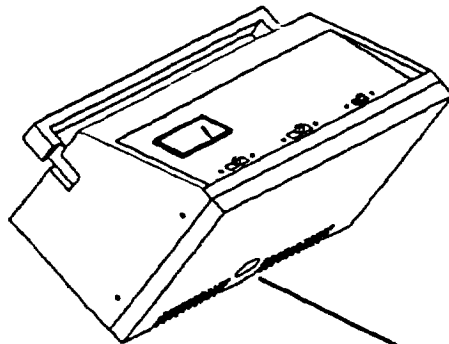


Sign: To be posted in Sears store

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

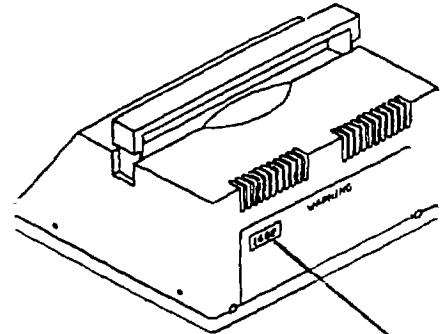
**DIEHARD FULLY AUTOMATIC 6/12 VOLT  
BATTERY CHARGER ENGINE STARTER 10/2/60 AMP  
SEARS MODEL 200.71310**

FRONT



Date Code on bottom of charger  
ONLY those with the following codes are affected  
H961, H962, H963, H964, H965, H966, H967,  
H968, H969, H9610, H9611, H9612, H971, H972.

BACK



Label on back of charger  
If your charger has a white  
label showing # 1682, it has  
been modified and can be used

## POTENTIAL HAZARD

Under certain circumstances there is a potential overheating and possible smoke/fire hazard.

## IDENTIFICATION

The model number is located on the front of the charger. The production Date Code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only those chargers with date codes from January 1996 through February 1997 (H961...H972, as indicated above) are affected. If the charger is marked with a White label on the back of the charger with # 1682, the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned.

## CORRECTIVE ACTION

If you have one of these chargers ( without the white label and within the affected date code) , bring it to your nearest Sears Auto Center , Sears Hardware Store or Dealer Store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.

INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 64

Removal 30 days after posting.

MSN97-006

109

April 9, 1997

Katherin Cumberland  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, MD 20814

97 APR 14

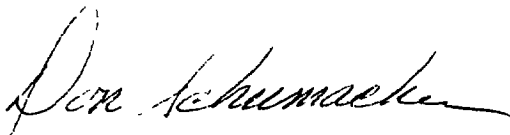
Reference: Draft of letter for news release and signage.  
Corrective action taken on inventory in Sears  
warehouse, Sears stores and our warehouse.

Dear Katherin:

Enclosed is a draft of a news release Sears and Schumacher Electric has put together along with a sign that will be posted in the Sears stores. Please review these and advise me of your thoughts.

The corrective action we have taken is documented in the rework procedure #1682. This work has been completed on all of our warehouse inventory and all Sears stores and warehouse inventory.

Sincerely  
SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CORPORATION



Donald A. Schumacher  
President

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**DRAFT #4s  
CPSC LETTERHEAD**

**CPSC CONTACT**

**SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CONTACT  
DON SCHUMACHER  
773 973 1600**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL XX 1997**

**CPSC AND SCHUMACHER ANNOUNCE RECALL OF SEARS BATTERY CHARGER**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) , Schumacher Electric Corp., Chicago , Illinois, is recalling approximately 100,000 Sears DieHard battery chargers.**

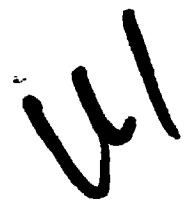
**The chargers are being voluntarily recalled due to a wiring connection that, while the unit is plugged into a live outlet, could result in a short in the transformer causing it to overheat, creating a possible smoke or fire hazard. Sears has removed all of the potentially defective units from its shelves, and Schumacher Electric has corrected the wiring in these chargers.**

**The chargers were sold in Sears Automotive Centers, Sears Hardware stores and Sears Dealer stores as Die Hard battery charger model 200.71310. The product date code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only chargers manufactured between January 1996 and February 1997 are affected by the recall. If the charger is marked with a white label sticker on the back of the charger with the #1682, this indicates that the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned. Consumers can check the date code on the base or bottom of their charger ( see attached diagram) to determine if their charger is included in the recall.**

**Consumers are advised to immediately stop using the battery charger and return it to their nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware Store or Sears Dealer store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.**

**No other Sears battery chargers are involved in the recall.**

**The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under agency jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or product related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand services, call CPSC's hotline(800)638 2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638 8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504 0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain the release and recall information at CPSC's web site at [HTTP://www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or via internet gopher services at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Consumers can report products hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).**

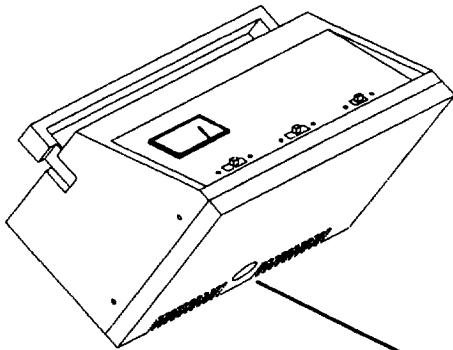


**Sign: To be posted in Sears store**

## **IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE**

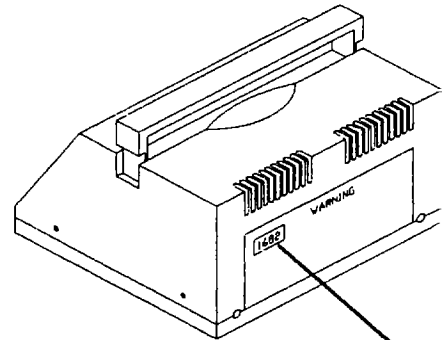
**DIEHARD FULLY AUTOMATIC 6/12 VOLT  
BATTERY CHARGER ENGINE STARTER 10/2/60 AMP  
SEARS MODEL 200.71310**

**FRONT**



**Date Code on bottom of charger**  
**ONLY those with the following codes are affected**  
**H961 , H962 , H963 , H964 , H965 , H966 , H967 ,**  
**H968 , H969 , H9610 , H9611 , H9612 , H971 , H972.**

**BACK**



**Label on back of charger**  
**If your charger has a white**  
**label showing # 1682 , It has**  
**been modified and can be used**

## **POTENTIAL HAZARD**

**Under certain circumstances there is a potential overheating and possible smoke/fire hazard.**

## **IDENTIFICATION**

**The model number is located on the front of the charger. The production Date Code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only those chargers with date codes from January 1996 through February 1997 (H961...H972, as indicated above) are affected. If the charger is marked with a White label on the back of the charger with # 1682. the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned.**

## **CORRECTIVE ACTION**

**If you have one of these chargers ( without the white label and within the affected date code) , bring it to your nearest Sears Auto Center , Sears Hardware Store or Dealer Store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.**

**INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 64**

**Removal 30 days after posting.**

**MSN97-006**

*112*

Object is to rework all stock and in process chargers , all distribution returns and 428 transformers

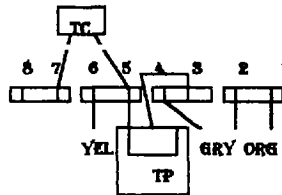
The transformer is to result in a transformer with:

1. Thermal Switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of coil, narrow side down, Use a layer of glass cloth tape under and over the thermal switch. You will have to remove jumpers Brown , Yellow and Gray from the transformer before TP can be reinstalled. The thermal switch is located in positions 5 and 3.

2. A Thermal Cutoff 3900000083 is added to the transformer. Place in bobbin hole and wire to position 7 and 5.

Make sure both TP and TC leadwires are completely separated from each other and the body of the TP.

3. Reconnect the Brn, Yel and Gry leads.



The Charger is to result in a charger with:

1. Thermal Switch on the outside of coil
2. Thermal Cutoff added to the transformer
3. Sleeving on the leads designated see 94191007-08
4. Green label on the individual and master cartons

Charger rework Obtain the charger from stock and rework by:

1. Carefully remove the individual cartons from the master carton. Save Master Carton
2. Carefully remove the charger from the individual carton. Save Carton and Manual
3. Remove the six screws securing the cover to the case. Remove Cover. Save all hardware
4. Observe the transformer:

The Thermal switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of the coil.

A thermal cutout 3900000083 must be added to the transformer (See proper hookup view ).

5. Sleeving 0399000021 is to be added to the charger linecord connections. If the charger has the dual wire( jumper) the sleeving should be put on the terminals next to the linecord connection and on the single end terminal of the jumper.

5A. Dual lead linecord put 0399000022 on the dual connection and 0399000021 on the single end.

6. Replace the cover and secure with the six saved screws. Place label 1682 on back of charger above and next to the warning words.

7. Test the charger per standard test specification

8. If charger tests OK , repack with manual in the saved individual carton. Label the carton with green label. Repack four reworked chargers into the saved master pack. Label the master carton with one of the green labels.

9. Restock

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**Schumacher**

**ELECTRIC CORP.**

7474 N. Rogers Ave. • Chicago, IL 60626 • TEL 312/978-1500 • FAX 312/978-7781

April 9, 1997

Katherin Cumberland  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Reference: Draft of letter for news release and signage.  
Corrective action taken on inventory in Sears  
warehouse, Sears stores and our warehouse.

Dear Katherin:

Enclosed is a draft of a news release Sears and Schumacher Electric has put together along with a sign that will be posted in the Sears stores. Please review these and advise me of your thoughts.

The corrective action we have taken is documented in the rework procedure #1682. This work has been completed on all of our warehouse inventory and all Sears stores and warehouse inventory.

Sincerely  
SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Donald A. Schumacher  
President

114

**DRAFT #4s  
CPSC LETTERHEAD**

**CPSC CONTACT**

**SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CONTACT  
DON SCHUMACHER  
773 973 1600**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL XX 1997**

**CPSC AND SCHUMACHER ANNOUNCE RECALL OF SEARS BATTERY CHARGER**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) , Schumacher Electric Corp., Chicago , Illinois, is recalling approximately 100,000 Sears DieHard battery chargers.**

**The chargers are being voluntarily recalled due to a wiring connection that, while the unit is plugged into a live outlet, could result in a short in the transformer causing it to overheat, creating a possible smoke or fire hazard. Sears has removed all of the potentially defective units from its shelves, and Schumacher Electric has corrected the wiring in these chargers.**

**The chargers were sold in Sears Automotive Centers, Sears Hardware stores and Sears Dealer stores as Die Hard battery charger model 200.71310. The product date code is molded into the plastic base of the charger. Only chargers manufactured between January 1996 and February 1997 are affected by the recall. If the charger is marked with a white label sticker on the back of the charger with the #1682, this indicates that the charger has been modified and does not need to be returned. Consumers can check the date code on the base or bottom of their charger ( see attached diagram) to determine if their charger is included in the recall.**

**Consumers are advised to immediately stop using the battery charger and return it to their nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware Store or Sears Dealer store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.**

**No other Sears battery chargers are involved in the recall.**

**The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under agency jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or product related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand services, call CPSC's hotline(800)638 2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638 8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504 0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain the release and recall information at CPSC's web site at [HTTP://www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or via internet gopher services at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Consumers can report products hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).**

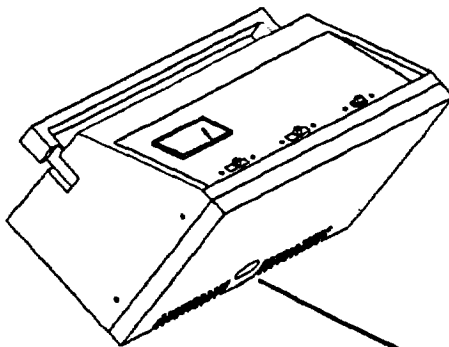
115

Sign: To be posted in Sears store

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

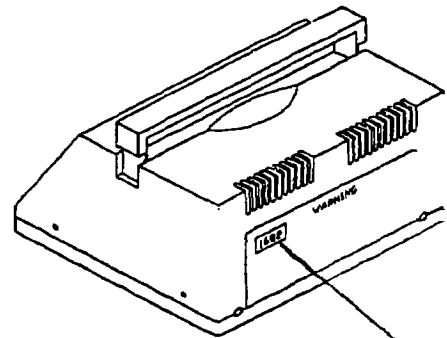
**DIEHARD FULLY AUTOMATIC 6/12 VOLT  
BATTERY CHARGER ENGINE STARTER 10/2/60 AMP  
SEARS MODEL 200.71310**

FRONT



Date Code on bottom of charger  
ONLY those with the following codes are affected  
H961 , H962 , H963 , H964 , H965 , H966 , H967 ,  
H968 , H969 , H9610 , H9611 , H9612 , H971 , H972.

BACK



Label on back of charger  
If your charger has a white  
label showing # 1682 , It has  
been modified and can be used

## POTENTIAL HAZARD

Under certain circumstances there is a potential overheating and possible smoke/fire hazard.

## IDENTIFICATION

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## CORRECTIVE ACTION

If you have one of these chargers ( without the white label and within the affected date code) , bring it to your nearest Sears Auto Center , Sears Hardware Store or Dealer Store where it can be exchanged for a new charger free of charge.

INQUIRES: 1 800 SEARS 84

Removal 30 days after posting.

MSN97-006

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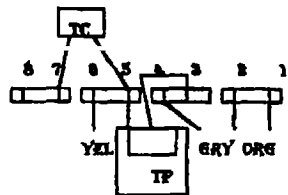


Rework Procedure # 1682 for 71310 - 94191007 93026428 3-17-97 rev 3-20-97

Object is to rework all stock and in process chargers , all distribution returns and 428 transformers

The transformer is to result in a transformer with:

1. Thermal Switch 3900000106 must be located on the outside of coil, narrow side down, Use a layer of glass cloth tape under and over the thermal switch. You will have to remove jumpers Brown , Yellow and Gray from the transformer before TP can be reinstalled. The thermal switch is located in positions 5 and 3.
  2. A Thermal Cutoff 3900000083 is added to the transformer. Place in bobbin hole and wire to position 7 and 5.
- Make sure both TP and TC leadwires are completely separated from each other and the body of the TP.
3. Reconnect the Brn, Yel and Gry leads.



The Charger is to result in a charger with:

1. Thermal Switch on the outside of coil
2. Thermal Cutoff added to the transformer
3. Sleeving on the leads designated see 94191007-08
4. Green label on the individual and master cartons

Charger rework Obtain the charger from stock and rework by:

1. Carefully remove the individual cartons from the master carton. Save Master Carton
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3. Remove the six screws securing the cover to the case. Remove Cover. Save all hardware
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A thermal cutout 3900000083 must be added to the transformer (See proper hookup view ).
5. Sleeving 0399000021 is to be added to the charger linecord connections. If the charger has the dual wire ( jumper) the sleeving should be put on the terminals next to the linecord connection and on the single end terminal of the jumper.
- 5A. Dual lead linecord put 0399000022 on the dual connection and 0399000021 on the single end.
6. Replace the cover and secure with the six saved screws. Place label 1682 on back of charger above and next to the warning words.
7. Test the charger per standard test specification
8. If charger tests OK , repack with manual in the saved individual carton. Label the carton with green label. Repack four reworked chargers into the saved master pack. Label the master carton with one of the green labels.
9. Restock

1682



**Schumacher** ELECTRIC CORP.

7474 N. Rogers Ave. • Chicago, IL 60626 • 312/973-1600 • FAX 312/973-7781

3/21/97

Schumacher Electric Corporation  
7474 North Rogers Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Mr. Marc Schoem, Director  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Reference: Notification of product hazard

Mr. Schoem;

Mr. Don Schumacher has requested that I send to you:

- (2) model 71310 battery chargers with SY diodes and *Fr 400*
- (1) model 71310 charger with the Motorola diodes and one shot thermal cutout.. *Fin*


The battery charger model 71310 is manufactured by Schumacher Electric Corporation and distributed by Sears Roebuck & Company..

The Company has received notification of a house fire believed to have been caused by the model 71310 battery charger. We have not seen the charger that was involved in this incident.

Upon investigation, at Schumacher Electric, of the 71310 charger, we have discovered a failure of some of the 25 amp button diodes, located inside the charger, which were supplied by one of our vendors. Since then, we have changed vendors and to a larger and higher rated diode for this application and will use Motorola diodes only. We have also added a thermal cutoff (one shot) into the transformer in addition to the already existing thermal switch.

Please feel free to call either myself or Mr. Schumacher concerning this matter.

Sincerely;

  
Steve Whalen ext 246  
Project Engineer  
Schumacher Electric Corporation

cc Don Schumacher

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APR- 5-97 SUN 14:17

P.01



United Parcel Service

## DELIVERY NOTIFICATION

April 04, 1997

ART CRISTINO  
SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC CORP  
7474 NORTH ROGERS  
CHICAGO IL 60626

Dear Customer,

This is in response to your request for delivery information concerning the shipment listed below.

To: 4330 EAST WEST HWY RM613  
BETHESDA MD 20814

Tracking Number..... 1Z6189810110004883  
Service Level..... Next Day Air

According to our records, this parcel was:

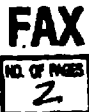
Delivered on ..... 03/25/97 at 10:00

Received by ..... BACKSTOM 516

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

United Parcel Service



TO: KATHERIN CHMIELEWICZ

FROM: DEN SCHUMACHER

MESSAGE: PROOF OF DELIVERY

MT2.8

119

3/21//97

Schumacher Electric Corporation  
7474 North Rogers Avenue  
Chicago , Illinois 60626

998 489726

Mr. Marc Schoem , Director  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway Room 613  
Bethesda , Maryland 20814

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Upon investigation , at Schumacher Electric, of the 71310 charger, we have discovered a failure of some of the 25 amp button diodes , located inside the charger, which were supplied by one of our vendors. Since then, we have changed vendors and to a larger and higher rated diode for this application and will use Motorola diodes only. We have also added a thermal cutoff( one shot) into the transformer in addition to the already existing thermal switch.

Please feel free to call either myself or Mr. Schumacher concerning this matter.

Sincerely;

Steve Whalen ext 246  
Project Engineer  
Schumacher Electric Corporation

cc Don Schumacher

News from CPSC  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release  
April 22, 1997  
Release # 97-108

CPSC Contact: Jane Francis  
(301) 504-0580 Ext. 1187

Schumacher Contact: Don Schumacher  
(773) 973-1600 Ext. 203

#### CPSC, Schumacher Announce Recall of Sears Battery Chargers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Schumacher Electric Corp. of Chicago, Ill., is recalling about 100,000 Sears DieHard battery chargers. The battery charger has a wiring connection that could short and cause the transformer to overheat. This poses a potential fire hazard.

CPSC is aware of one alleged incident of a fire involving this battery charger. No injuries resulted.

The Sears Die Hard battery charger being recalled is model number 200.71310 manufactured between January 1996 and February 1997. The model number is located on the

front of the charger and the date code (H961 through H972) is molded into the plastic base on the bottom of the charger. Labeling on the front of the charger reads in part, "Sears...Die Hard...Fully Automatic Battery Charger Engine Starter." Battery chargers that have a white sticker on the back of the charger displaying number 1682 have already been modified and are not involved in this recall.

-more-

(battery charger) -2-

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Sears Automotive Centers, Sears Hardware stores, and Sears Dealer stores sold these battery chargers from January 1996 through February 1997 for about \$65.

Consumers should immediately stop using these battery chargers and return them to the nearest Sears Auto Center, Sears Hardware store, or Sears Dealer store for a free replacement. For more information about this recall, consumers should call 1-800-SEARS64.

No other Sears battery chargers are involved in this recall.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable

risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov> or via Internet gopher services at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Consumers can report product hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).####

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**ClearingHouse Format - With Manufacturer  
Reported Incidents  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
National Injury Information ClearingHouse**

**4/17/97  
Page 1**

Document Number: G9690080A Task Number: 961003CCC7018 Issue: 51  
Date Received: 09/19/96 Confirmed: Date Entered: 10/02/96  
City: NORTHBROOK State: IL Zip: 00000  
Source: 0 Type Of Contact: 20  
Prod: 883 BATTERY CHARGERS  
Prod: 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT  
Date Injured: 08/12/96 D Work Related: N  
Age: 0 Sex: 0 UNKNOWN  
Disposition: 0 0=NO INJURY Haz Type: 1 FIRES AND FLAMES  
Brand: MANUFACTURER UNKNO Screened?:  
Model: 0

**Narrative:**

A HOUSE FIRE APPARENTLY STARTED IN A BATTERY CHARGER IN THE GARAGE.  
NO INJURY DAMAGE: N/A

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